

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9457

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAS, UY, CU

SUBJ: GOU IRE AT "HURRIED" CONVOCAION OF ORGAN OF CONSULTATION

FONMIN BLANCO CABLED OAS SEC GEN ORFILA ON JULY 29 TO PROTEST THE CONVOCAION OF A MEETING OF MINISTERS WITHOUT GIVING MINISTERS FROM DISTANT COUNTRIES TIME TO REACH THE MEETING PLACE. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE CABLE, WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN WIDE PUBLICITY HERE, FOLLOWS:

"I HAVE THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF YOUR EXCELLENCY'S MESSAGE OF THE 28TH COMMUNICATING THE CONVOCAION OF THE 29TH OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF CONSULTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN TREATY OF RECIPROCAL ASSISTANCE STARTING ON THE 29TH IN THE CITY OF SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA. IN THIS RESPECT I CANNOT BUT EXPRESS THE SURPRISE AND ANNOYANCE (DISGUSTO) OF MY GOVERNMENT FOR THE TERMS OF CONVOCAION WHICH WERE OPPORTUNELY NOTED BY THE URUGUAYAN DELEGATION IN THE SESSION OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL THAT DECIDED ON THEM, AND WHOSE BREVITY IMPEDE, IN RESPECT TO MY COUNTRY, PARTICIPATION AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE NATURE OF THE MATTER DISCUSSED -- WHICH IN NO WAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS MERE PROCEDURE OR ROUTINE -- THE NECESSITY OF ASSURING A MEETING

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AT THE HIGHEST POLITICAL LEVEL SEEMS TO BE WITHOUT DOUBT.

THIS IS FRUSTRATED IN PRACTICE FOR COUNTRIES GEOGRAPHICALLY MOST DISTANT. THUS, THE POSSIBILITY OF STUDYING THE MATTER IN THE DEPTH AND AT THE LEVEL ITS CHARACTER DEMANDS IS WEAKENED. ASSIGNING THE SUBJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION LATERAL AND HURRIED TREATMENT PREJUDICES THE FUNCTIONING OF THE ORGANS OF THE SYSTEM AND THEIR PRESTIGE AND PUBLIC IMAGE. I REGRET THAT THE PROCEDURES FOLLOWED ACTUALLY MIGHT IMPEDE THE PARTICIPATION OF ONE OR SEVERAL FOREIGN MINISTERS, ALL OF WHICH I ASK BE MADE PART OF THE RECORD. THIS CIRCUMSTANCE, NEVERTHELESS, CANNOT ALTER THE SERIOUS AND RESPONSIBLE PARTICIPATION OF MY COUNTRY IN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS NOR CHANGE THE FIRM POLICY OF MY GOVERNMENT IN THE SENSE OF FACILITATING THE FUNCTIONING OF ORGANS OF THE SYSTEM AND THE DISCUSSION OF ISSUES, EVEN THOUGH THIS, AS IN THIS CASE, MIGHT BE INOPPORTUNE AND UNTIMELY. CONSEQUENTLY, I INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT THE DELEGATION OF THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY TO THE 16TH MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL CONSIST OF AMBASSADOR MATEO MARQUES SERE, WHO WILL BE ITS CHIEF, AMBASSADOR ALVARO ALVAREZ, COL. CARLOS PALERMO AND SECRETARY ANTONIO CAMPS. GREETINGS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY WITH MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. JUAN CARLOS BLANCO, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY."

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